

Appl. No. 09/942,244
Amdt. dated July 21, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 11, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

At least one of the attachment plates 14 includes an opening 38 configured to receive a bushing 40. The bushing 40 may include an inner surface 42 and an outer surface 44. As will be discussed in greater detail below, the inner surface 42outer surface 44 of the bushing 40 loosely engages the opening 38 to allow free rotation of the bushing 40 within the mounting bracket 10. In the illustrated embodiment, the opening 38 is configured within the first attachment plate 24. The bushing 40 may include a flange 46, which extends radially from the outer surface 44 of the bushing 40. In one embodiment, a pair of flanges 46 extend radially outward from the outer surface 44 of the bushing 40 at a first end 48 and a second end 50 of the bushing 40. The flanges 46 help to retain the bushing 40 within the opening 38 in the first attachment plate 24. The bushing 40 may include one or more protrusions 52 which extend from the inner surface 42 of the bushing. In one embodiment, three protrusions 52 are spaced about the inner surface 42, extending from the first end 48 of the bushing 40 to the second end 50 of the bushing 40. The protrusions 52 provide a raised surface which may frictionally engage a fastener (Figure 2) to help retain the fastener within the bushing 40.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As in the embodiment discussed above, the male member 148 may include one or more protrusions (not shown)149 which extend from the inner surface 142 to facilitate the attachment of a fastener to the bushing 140.

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Please replace the paragraphs beginning at page 14, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

Referring now to Figure 4 an inflatable curtain or airbag device 200 is shown. The device includes an inflator 202 with an initiator device 204, such as a lead wire, attached at a first end 206 of the inflator 202. A second end 208 of the inflator 202 is in communication with an inflatable curtain 212210 in a folded state. Brackets 212 may secure the inflator 202 to the interior of a vehicle. Mounting brackets 211 of the kind discussed previously may secure the inflatable curtain 212210 to the interior of a vehicle. The mounting brackets 211 allow the inflatable curtain 212210 to be secured to the vehicle by a fastener positioned within the brackets 211 while significantly reducing any torque exerted on the fastener during installation to be transferred to the brackets 211 or inflatable curtain 212210.

Referring now to Figure 5, the airbag device 200 may include an inflatable curtain 212210 having a first edge 213 and opposing surfaces 216 and 218. A pair of attachment plates 224 and 230 are configured to engage the opposing surfaces 216 and 218 of the inflatable curtain 212210. In the illustrated embodiment, the attachment plates 224, 230 are configured with indentations 231 to facilitate the capture of the inflatable curtain 212210 between the plates 224, 230.